

Approved Minutes
Operator Certification Board Meeting
April 21, 1999
Oacoma, SD Cedar Shores

Members Present: Del DeBoer, Cheryl Johnson, Tom Lesselyoung, Rollin Sieveke, Greg Merrigan, John Scheltens

Others Present: Mary Taylor-Reliance, Ron McManus-Reliance, Lloyd Markham-Reliance, George Vansco-SDARWS, Hiram Gross-Jefferson, Marvin Bebensee-Brookings, Ray Bircham-DENR, and Randy Hilding-DENR.

Call to Order by Chairperson DeBoer at 2:06 pm

Approval of Agenda: Kittay wanted to add a contract review for St. Lawrence. DeBoer said that the election of the chairperson would be delayed until all board members showed up. Sieveke moved to approve to revised agenda. Lesselyoung seconded. Motion passed

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the September meeting had been previously sent to the Board. Sieveke moved for approval of the minutes. Johnson seconded. Motion passed.

Formal Hearings: DeBoer surveyed the visitors to see which systems were represented.

Jefferson-Hiram Gross, Utilities Manager, was present. Gross has passed WDI and has applied for reciprocity for a Nebraska wastewater certificate. He worked long term for Iowa Beef Processing in the wastewater department. Sieveke noted that great strides have been made by Jefferson recently. Merrigan moved to continue the hearing at the September meeting. Sieveke seconded. Motion passed. The Board asked that Kittay recognize work done so far by Jefferson.

Merrigan enters meeting at 2:12

Scheltens enter meeting at 2:13

Reciprocity Requests: DeBoer wanted to handle Hiram Gross' reciprocity request at this time. Nebraska's requirements were equivalent to South Dakota's for WW II. Merrigan moved that he be granted a South Dakota Class II WW certificate. Johnson seconded. Motion passed.

Informal Hearings: Reliance-Mary Taylor, Lloyd Markham, and Ron McManus represented Reliance. Taylor led the conversation for the group. She noted the future actions to be taken by the operator, Richard Hanson. He has signed up for the SWT exam on May 5 in Sioux Falls and will also register to take the exam on May 13 in Spearfish. Johnson moved to continue this hearing at the September meeting. Merrigan seconded. Motion passed

Election of Chairperson: As the full board was now present, DeBoer called for nominations for chairperson. Merrigan nominated Sieveke. Scheltens moved that nominations close. Lesselyoung seconded. Motion passed.

Sieveke was then elected unanimously. Sieveke took over the meeting as Chairperson. Merrigan noted the “fine service and the admirable performance” of DeBoer as chairperson.

Formal Hearings (Cont’d): Castlewood-No-one was present to represent Castlewood; however, Kerry Scott submitted a schedule of actions for Castlewood. Vansco reviewed the tutoring sessions. Kittay had some concerns with the number of training sessions that have been done with Castlewood personnel and how much money DENR is putting into this one system. Castlewood may have had some Pb/Cu compliance issues. DeBoer moved to recommend the DENR pursue enforcement of this case thru the Attorney General. Johnson seconded. Discussion ensued. Motion passed.

Buffalo Gap-Ray Clements, President of Buffalo Gap, sent a letter to the Board outlining a plan to gain the needed certification. Walt Duffy will be taking an exam in Spearfish on May 13. Buffalo Gap and James Airheart will enter into a contract if the exam is failed. Scheltens moved to continue this case to the September meeting. DeBoer seconded. Vansco noted that SDARWS has offered tutoring to Duffy. Motion passed. The Board indicated that Buffalo Gap should be made aware of contract prerequisites.

Carthage-A contract was received from Carthage and Rollin Walter. Kittay and DeBoer had done a preliminary review. As it appeared that contract was mainly for sampling, Kittay told Carthage should change the contract for more job duties for running the water system-not just sampling. Kittay had spoken to Joe Pederson, President. No other contract was received so the full board reviewed the current contract. Merrigan moved that Carthage submits an updated contract by June 1 or that the case be submitted to the Attorney General at that time. DeBoer seconded. Motion passed.

Kittay noted that Ipswich and Bowdle had their hearings cancelled as they are now in compliance.

Informal Hearings (Cont’d): Cattlemen’s Saloon-Kittay spoke to owner about taking an exam. An application was submitted for May 13 in Spearfish. DeBoer moved that a formal hearing be held in September. Lesselyoung seconded. Motion passed.

Circle K Resort-SDARWS will be giving tutorial help this week. Scheltens asked about the success of the tutorial program. Vansco responded. Merrigan moved that a formal hearing be held in September. Johnson seconded. Motion passed.

Country Club Estates-A contract was submitted from Country Club Estates and Jim Airheart. DeBoer questioned a couple provisions in the contract that probably do not apply to this system. DeBoer moved that contract be revised by June 1. The items to be revised are: fluoridation is not done at this system and the on-site visit provision is ambiguous. It was also suggested that a system description be provided also. Merrigan seconded. Motion passed. DeBoer moved that the hearing be continued to the September hearing. Merrigan seconded. Motion passed.

Riverland Estates-The housing development and Craig Carroll submitted a contract to be reviewed. Merrigan moved continue hearing & revise contract to make it more specific to their system by June 1. The fluoride testing provision needs to be removed. DeBoer seconded. Motion passed.

St. Lawrence-A contract from Jim Bonebright and the City was received. DeBoer moved for approval of the contract. Johnson seconded. Motion passed.

Sunrise Homeowners-Frank Karas and the housing development submitted a contract for review. Merrigan moved to have a revised contract submitted by June 1 stating on-site time. DeBoer seconded. Motion passed

Reciprocity Requests (Cont'd): Bob Evridge holds an Iowa Class IV WW certificate and applied for a South Dakota Class IV. The requirements for the SD Class IV include at least two years DRC while IA's require only one year. Merrigan moved that a Class III WW certificate be issued. Johnson seconded. Motion passed.

Training Report-The report was given by Vansco. A new 1999-2000 training schedule has been issued. He also reported on the one-on-one training.

Status of Certification: DeBoer moved that Lake Preston, Viborg, Centerville, Elk Point, and Gregory be scheduled for informal at the September meeting. Lesselyoung seconded. Motion passed.

SDWA Operator Certification Guidelines: Kittay reviewed the possible statute and regulation changes. Discussion ensued. Questions before the Board-Whether to allow "grandfathering"? How to allow for renewal of grandfathered certificates? Scheltens suggested that a meeting be held before the regular September meeting to discuss this issue. DeBoer would like to hear from DENR on staffing and administration of OpCert after the new systems are added. The first three weeks in June will not work for some Board members.

Other Business: Kittay spoke about a water system with a chlorine unit that is used only occasionally such as after an unsafe sample or line break. The system was wondering whether they needed a certified operator. The Board indicated that if the chlorine system is hooked up and chlorine is available at all times, a certified operator is needed. Otherwise, anytime the chlorine is turned on they would be out of compliance.

Kittay stated that the sample contract could be discussed at the June meeting.

Adjournment: DeBoer moved for adjournment. Lesselyoung seconded. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 5:28.

Rob Kittay- Secretary

Date